

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 079408
ORIGIN DOE-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-07 SOE-02 ACDA-12 NRC-07
/056 R

DRAFTED BY USDOE:IA:JGARRETT/JK
APPROVED BY OES/NET:DHOYLE
USDOE:IA:HBENGELSDORF
EUR/NE: MR. WORREL
ACDA:HWILLIAMS

-----014977 282214Z /66

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS STATE 079408

E.O. 11652: N/A

AGS: TGEN, UK

SUBJECT: SHIPPING PLUTONIUM BY AIR

REF: LONDON 03808

1. IN ANSWER TO QUERY IN SUBJECT CABLE, BOTH DOE AND NRC
HAVE REGULATIONS IN FORCE PROHIBITING SHIPMENT OF
PLUTONIUM BY AIR.

A. PUBLIC LAW 94-79 PROHIBITS THE NRC FROM ISSUING
LICENSES FOR SHIPMENT OF PLUTONIUM BY AIRCRAFT WHETHER
EXPORTS, IMPORTS, OR DOMESTIC, EXCEPT FOR PLUTONIUM CONTAINED
IN A MEDICAL DEVICE DESIGNED FOR INDIVIDUAL HUMAN
APPLICATION SUCH AS PLUTONIUM CONTAINED IN HEART PACERS.

B. SECTION 502 P.L. 94-187 PROHIBITS THE AIR SHIPMENT
BY DOE OF PLUTONIUM WHETHER EXPORTS, IMPORTS, OR DOMESTIC
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EXCEPT FOR (1) PLUTONIUM IN ANY FORM DESIGNED FOR MEDICAL
APPLICATIONS (2) SHIPMENTS DETERMINED TO BE FOR PURPOSES
OF NATIONAL SECURITY, PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY, OR
EMERGENCY MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS, OR (3) SMALL AMOUNTS OF
PLUTONIUM DEEMED BY DOE TO REQUIRE RAPID SHIPMENT BY AIR
IN ORDER TO PRESERVE THE CHEMICAL, PHYSICAL, OR ISOTOPIC

PROPERTIES OF THE TRANSPORTED ITEM OR MATERIAL.

THE ABOVE RESTRICTIONS ARE TO REMAIN IN FORCE UNTIL DOE HAS CERTIFIED TO CONGRESS THAT SAFE CONTAINER HAS BEEN DEVELOPED AND TESTED WHICH WILL NOT RUPTURE UNDER CRASH AND BLAST TESTING EQUIVALENT TO THE CRASH AND EXPLOSION OF A HIGH-FLYING AIRCRAFT.

C. BY A REGULATION PROMULGATED ON SEPTEMBER 19, 1977 (42 FEDERAL REGISTER 48331) DOE (ERDA) IMPLEMENTED PARA B, ABOVE AND, AMONG OTHER THINGS, EXEMPTS CERTAIN NATIONAL SECURITY, OR HEALTH AND SAFETY SHIPMENTS, FROM THIS PROHIBITION. THIS EXEMPTION INCLUDES SHIPMENTS MADE PURSUANT TO INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS FOR COOPERATION FOR MUTUAL DEFENSE PURPOSES. COOPER

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TAGS: ELTN
To: LONDON
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0137febb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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